148. The necessity for declaring Friday as a holiday for the Mahomedans.

Mr. K. Mytheen Pillai (Member, Nominated) said the Mussalman Members of the Assembly had been, year after year, asking for Friday being declared as a holiday for the community. Their prayer was based on religious grounds, and he regretted that equal treatment with the Hindus and Christians was not meted out to them by the Government.

Mr. C. S. Uthumal Sahib Daha Lebba Alim Sahib (Member, Nominated) said that, while the other communities were asking for favors which would benefit them in this material world, the Mahomedans were every year, since the inception of the Assembly, asking for the small favour of exemption from work on one day in the week, which their religion ordained should be most religiously observed. No orthodox Mahomedan could think of breaking the rule. Temporary remission for a few hours on Fridays was not of much use, as that would put them to the necessity of walking long distances to the distant Courts the same day. The ceremonial days of the Christians and Hindus were declared *public* holidays. But he only requested that Friday be declared a holiday so far as the Mahomedans were concerned. He requested that a favourable reply might be vouchsafed to them on the present occasion.

Mr. Kochu Hassan Kunju (Member, Nominated) also supported the other speakers.

Dewan's reply.—The High Court have recently addressed the Government about the practice obtaining in British India in this matter. It will be looked into.

149. The need for opening a daily market at Ramanputhur.

Mr. D. Francis (Member, Nominated) said that, from the 1st mile-stone to the 4th mile-stone of the Rajakkamangalam road, there were more than 15 villages on both sides of the road within an area of four square miles, partly in the taluk of Agastiswaram and partly in the taluk of Eraniel, containing a population of 5,000 people. As there was not even a single market within that area, the inhabitants had to go every day for their marketing to Kottar, which was more than four miles from some of the villages, and they, more especially the women, were put to much inconvenience and hardship. The Member added that, a few years ago, some of the inhabitants had opened a market for those villages in a private compound on the Rajakkamangalam road; but that market had to be given up soon on account of the troubles which the sellers experienced at the hands of the owner of the compound. He therefore prayed for the opening of a market near the 2nd mile-stone on the Rajakkamangalam road.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

150 The need for making permanent the experimental Anchal office at Mukamel.

Mr. M. K. Narayana Panicker (Member, Sherthallai taluk) said that an Anchal office was recently opened at Mukamel as an experimental measure for one year. As the institution was working well, he prayed that it should be made permanent.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

151. The necessity for an Anchal office at Karimannur.

Mr. Ousep Chacko (Member, Thodupuzha taluk) said that there was at present no Anchal office on the eastern portion of the taluk, where there were several schools, churches and other public institutions. He requested that an Anchal office might be established at Karimannur, near the Proverthy Cutcherry. It would be a central place and 7 miles away from the nearest Anchal office.

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